

## Message Text

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53

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 FEA-01 SAM-01

/090 W

----- 044504

R 281302Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4355

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, ASEC, KU

SUBJ: KUWAITI REACTION TO OPEC TERRORIST ATTACK

1. WHILE DURING EARLY STAGES OF VIENNA INCIDENT GOK TOOK  
CAUTIOUSLY CRITICAL STANCE OF WHOLE OPERATION, PEACEFUL CONCLUSION  
TO THE DRAMA AND, IN PARTICULAR, SAFE RETURN OF KUWAITI HOSTAGES  
HAS LED TO A MORE CURIOUS KIND OF REACTION HERE. IMPORTANT KUWAITIS  
WE HAVE MET IN LAST FEW DAYS ARE DEFENSIVE OF TERRORISTS, IF NOT  
ALTOGETHER APPROVING OF THEIR METHODS, AND SEEM FASCINATED BY  
THE ROMATIC ASPECTS OF CARLOS AND GANG. FINALLY, THERE HAS  
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EMERGED A CERTAIN SMUGNESS AT HAVING BEEN SEPARATED BY THE

TERRORISTS FROM THE ARAB REACTIONARY REGIMES, EVEN IF KUWAIT WAS NOT APPARENTLY PLACED IN THE "FRIEND" CATEGORY EITHER. CROWN PRINCE REFLECTED THIS FEELING TO AMBASSADOR DURING LATTER'S FAREWELL CALL WHEN, SPEAKING WITH SOME PRIDE OF SPECIAL KUWAITI ROLE AND FUNCTION IN ARAB WORLD, MENTIONED IN PASSING TERRORISTS' UNCERTAINTY ABOUT WHERE TO CLASSIFY KUWAIT. IN FURTHER PLACING APPARENT DISTANCE BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN, OIL MINISTER KAZIMI REPORTEDLY TOLD PRESS YESTERDAY THAT CONTRARY TO ALLEGATIONS OF YAMANI AND AMOUZEGAR, COMMANDOS HAD NOT THREATENED TO KILL ANY OF THEIR "SENIOR" HOSTAGES AND HAD TREATED ALL THE MINISTERS WITH COURTESY.

2. ONE INTERESTING INFO TIDBIT. EMBOFFS WERE TOLD BY SOURCE CLOSE TO OIL MINISER THAT, ACCORDING TO LATTER, "CARLOS" HAD SAID HE ORIGINALLY A SYRIAN AND THAT HIS NAME ACTUALLY WAS MAHMUD ABU KHAYR. SOURCE SAID THERE NO DOUBT THAT "CARLOS" OF THIS OPERATION WAS IDENTICAL WITH HIS NOTORIOUS NAMESAKE; HE HAD REPORTEDLY REGALED SOME OF HIS HOSGAGES WITH TALES OF PREVIOUS EXPLOITS.

3. COMMENT: IF VIEWS DESCRIBED PARA (1) REFLECT ACCUATELY KUWAIT ATTITUDES, THEY WILL CAUSE EMBARRASSMENT IF THEY BECOME KNOWN TO SAUDIS, IRANIANS, AND OTHERS. WE CANNOT HELP BUT BE DISAPPOINTED WITH APPARENT SHORT-SIGHTED KUWAITI ATTITUDES TOWARDS INCIDENT WHICH SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT HOME VIVIDLY DANGERS TO ALL OF TERRORIST ACTIVITIES.

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